



# Civic Loop

Promoting Recycling through Community Leadership



Issue 6, Volume 3  
Winter 2010



## Moving Ahead in 2010

### Letter from the Editor

It's a new year and the start of a new decade. This is a good time to resolve to improve our efforts to recycle all that we can recycle, reduce the amount of waste generated and to increase our purchases of products made with recycled materials. But, let's take a moment to reflect on some changes made in 2009.



In September, County Executive Isiah Leggett announced the expansion of the county's curbside recycling program to include even more materials that can be recycled in the County. Montgomery County now has one of the broadest curbside recycling programs in the region and accepts many materials for recycling, including empty, non-hazardous aerosol cans, milk and juice cartons, drink boxes, and produce and frozen food boxes, just to name a few. Please see the back panel of this newsletter for a reminder of the types of mixed paper items and commingled materials that can now be recycled.

In May, the County Executive announced an effort to reduce paper and printing costs in county government. Waste reduction is the top priority in solid waste management. To meet this initiative, the Division of Solid Waste Services continues its effort to reduce paper and printing costs within the Division. As you will see, we are encouraging all community and association representatives to register to receive this newsletter via email instead of in print. If you are interested in subscribing for an e-newsletter, please see the bottom of page 2 for more information. In addition, all of the Division's educational materials and information pertaining to recycling can be found on-line for downloading. Please bookmark [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) to keep apprised of the latest recycling news in Montgomery County.

Please continue your efforts in 2010 and beyond and help spread this information to the residents and businesses in your community. Staff from the Division of Solid Waste Services are available to attend community meetings and events to provide information about recycling in the county. If your community or association is interested in scheduling a speaker to discuss the county's recycling, waste reduction and buying recycled programs, please contact Montgomery County's Recycling Coordinator, Alan Pultyniewicz, at 240-777-6480 or via email at [alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov).

*Alan Pultyniewicz*  
Recycling Coordinator

# Montgomery County's Mulch Preserves

Instead of buying mulch, have you ever considered using mulch made from this year's Christmas trees? All Christmas trees that are collected curbside by the Division of Solid Waste Services through the end of January are placed through a grinder and chipped into mulch. This mulch is available for county residents at no charge and is available for pick-up at two sites in the county (see below). In addition, mulch may be available for community beautification projects to enhance your community. For more information on the mulch preserve program, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling).



LEFT: Mulch is available for County residents and communities to load in their vehicles at no charge.

## The mulch available from the Neighborhood Mulch Preserves is good for:

- use on woody plants such as bushes, shrubs, and trees
- use as a cover material on walkways or other areas where you want to control vegetation
- a carbon-rich addition to backyard compost bins

## Mulch Preserve Locations

- 1** **Montgomery County Recycling Center**  
16105 Frederick Road, Derwood, MD 20855  
Monday-Friday: 7:30 am to 7:30 pm  
Saturday: 7:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

- 2** **E. E. Halmos Park**  
19500-19512 Bodmer Avenue  
Poolesville, MD 20837  
(Use the Bodmer Avenue entrance)  
Open: Daylight hours

CAUTION! Mulch may contain allergens, poison ivy, termites, and/or carpenter ants. Composting/curing may eliminate most of these problems. You should wear proper clothing when handling this mulch, such as: a long sleeve shirt and pants, gloves, eye protection and a dust mask. The Division of Solid Waste Services makes no guarantee concerning the quality of the mulch, nor assumes any liability for injury or property damage as a result of the use of this mulch.

## Raising Recycling Awareness in the Community

Rocco the Recycling Retriever walks the parade route at the annual Silver Spring Thanksgiving parade in November. Rocco helps to raise awareness about recycling in Montgomery County.



## REMINDER

The Civic Loop newsletter is available online at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling). If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of the Civic Loop newsletter, simply subscribe at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) or contact Alan Pultyniewicz at 240-777-6480 or email [alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov).





ABOVE: Staff and recycling program volunteers assist residents with paper shredding and unloading donated materials during the Division's America Recycles Day events in November 2009.

## America Recycles Day 2009

The Division of Solid Waste Services hosted four paper shredding/recycling and clothing/household goods donation events during the weekend of November 14 and 15, 2009 to celebrate America Recycles Day.

The events were successful thanks to the participation of more than 1,100 county residents and numerous staff and Recycling Program volunteers who graciously donated their time to support these events. A total of 40,900 pounds or 20.45 tons of paper was shredded and recycled and 7 donation trucks were filled with donated materials that will be reused instead of being disposed as refuse. Thanks to everyone that participated. The next collection event will take place in April 2010. More details will be available later this winter.

## Electronics Recycling Collection

On Sunday, December 13, 2009, the Division of Solid Waste Services hosted an electronics recycling collection event at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda. Staff from the Division of Solid Waste Services as well as volunteers with the Division's Recycling Volunteer Program and Bethesda Green braved the cold and rainy weather to unload electronic items such as computers, laptops, televisions, cell phones, CD/DVD players, record players and much more. Despite the poor weather, staff and volunteers helped unload 32,591 pounds or 16.3 tons of computers and other electronic items from 408 vehicles. Thanks to all of the staff and volunteers for their assistance. This marked the last satellite electronics recycling collection event for 2009. Remember, all Montgomery County residents can bring their unwanted electronic items and computers to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/Recycling Center located at 16101/16105 Frederick Road in Derwood. The facility is open seven days a week:

Mon-Fri: 7:00 am - 8:00 pm

Sat: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sun: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

RIGHT: DSWS staff and volunteers help to unload over 32,000 pounds of computers and other electronic items for recycling during the electronics recycling collection event at Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda.



## WASTE REDUCTION TIPS

- Instead of using disposable paper or Styrofoam® cups, try reusable cups and mugs instead. Some businesses may provide you with a discount for refilling beverages in your reusable cup.
- Using reusable shopping bags are a great way to reduce the need for the age old question "...paper or plastic?" Many grocery stores in Montgomery County provide shoppers with a discount off their total order when using their own reusable bags. Don't forget plastic grocery bags can be recycled at most grocery stores in the county. Check for the specially marked recycling containers at your favorite store.



# Winter 2010

Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services

Contact: Alan Pultyniewicz  
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Important Contact Information

Division of Solid Waste Services

(240) 777-6480

(240) 777-6465 (fax)

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling)

E-mail: [alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:alan.pultyniewicz@montgomerycountymd.gov)

Recycling for Multi-Family Properties

(240) 777-6446

Recycling for Businesses

(240) 777-6486

County Transfer Station

(240) 777-6560

County Recycling Center

(301) 417-1433

This information is available in an alternate format by calling  
Alan Pultyniewicz at (240) 777-6480.

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[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling)

## Now You Can Recycle More!

It's easy! Just place your recyclable materials in the correct containers.

### Commingled Materials



Now Recyclable



Non-hazardous  
aerosol cans



Plastic durable reusable  
containers and lids



Plastic flower pots, buckets,  
pails, jars, containers,  
tubs, and lids



Plastic bottles



Glass bottles  
and jars



Bi-metal  
steel/tin cans



Aluminum cans  
and foil products

### Mixed Paper



Now Recyclable



Wax-coated milk/juice cartons,  
drink boxes, and produce  
and frozen food boxes



Hardback, paperback,  
and telephone books



Newspaper  
and inserts



White and colored paper,  
and shredded paper



Unwanted mail  
and envelopes



Magazines  
and catalogs



Corrugated carboard and  
paperboard boxes

If you don't have a wheeled recycling cart, mixed paper can be placed in a small paper bag, a small cardboard box with a secure lid, or bundled with twine.